

CITY OF LANCASTER.



ANNUAL REPORT

OF
THE MEDICAL OFFICER
OF HEALTH FOR THE
YEAR ENDED 31st DEC.
1938.

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TO THE MAYOR AND
MEMBERS OF THE COUNCIL

MR. MAYOR, LADIES, AND GENTLEMEN,

In accordance with Article 17 (5) of the Sanitary Officers (outside London) Regulations, 1935, and Article 14 (3) of the Sanitary Officers' Order, 1926, I beg to present to you my Twenty-sixth Annual Report as Medical Officer of Health of Lancaster.

This Report is drawn up on the lines indicated in Circular 1728 of the Ministry of Health.

I am,

Mr. Mayor, Ladies and Gentlemen,

Your obedient Servant,

J. D. BUCHANAN.

26th June, 1939.

Public Health Officers of the Local Authority.

Medical Officer of Health (City and Port), School Medical Officer,
and Medical Superintendent of Smallpox Hospital:
J. D. BUCHANAN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Assistant Medical Officer of Health and Assistant School Medical
Officer:
Miss R. T. RANKIN, M.B., Ch.B., D.P.H.

Senior Sanitary Inspector, Port Sanitary Inspector, Food Inspector
and Inspector of Factories and Workshops and Canal Boats:
H. SCHOLEFIELD, *ab*

Sanitary Inspectors (General, District and Port):
W. W. JACKSON *abc* F. J. LEVESLEY *a* (from April) *h*
C. R. VARCOE *ab* (to June) A. KEWLEY *a* (from July) *j*

Health Visitors (who also act as School Nurses):
Mrs. D. SMITH (Superintendent) *de*
Miss E. AVEYARD *def* (to July)
Miss G. M. LLOYD *def*
Miss M. THOMPSON *fg*
Miss L. M. WINDER *def*
Miss L. RAINE *def* (from September)

Area Obstetrical Officer (part-time):
E. HOLMES, F.R.C.S., M.R.C.O.G.

Veterinary Inspector and Meat Inspector (part-time):
G. C. WEBSTER, M.R.C.V.S., D.V.S.M.

Public Analyst (part-time):
HARRI HEAP, M.SC., F.I.C.

Clerical Staff:
H. H. KELLETT (Chief Clerk).
J. V. SMITH (Clerk).
T. ALDREN (Junior Clerk)

a—Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of
R.S.I. or Joint Board.
b—Certificate for Meat Inspection.
c—Certificate for Sanitary Science.
d—General Trained Nurse.

e—C.M.B.
f—Health Visitor's Certificate.
g—Children's Nurse.
h—Temporary until 28th June, 1938,
j—Temporary.

A.—Statistics and Social Conditions of the Area.

Area (in Acres )	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	5,036
Population (Registrar-General's Estimate), Mid-year, 1938							47,540
Number of Inhabited Houses (end of 1938) according to							
Rate Books	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12,794
Rateable Value.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£303,240
Sum represented by a Penny Rate	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	£1,201

Included in the population figure of 47,540 are nearly 4,000 patients in the County Mental Hospital and the Royal Albert Institution.

The Population of the area as revealed by the Census of 26-27 April, 1931, was 43,396, compared with 41,410 in the year 1911, and 40,212 in 1921.

Industries and Occupations.

The chief manufactures of the town are those of linoleum, oilcloth, etc. Cotton weaving, furniture making, artificial silk works and dye works are other industries which provide employment for considerable numbers.

Unemployment.

Figures, kindly supplied by the Manager of the local Employment Exchange, which relate to men and women over 18 years of age, shew increases apart from December, in the Wholly unemployed on the figures for 1937. "There were however decreases in the Temporary Stoppage Register from July onwards except for September.

The increases were contributed to by all the principal industries until the end of June, when artificial silk began to show improvement, followed by linoleum and table baize. Building and Public works have both shewn a tendency to decline during recent months, a decline which has not yet (31. 1. 39) been arrested."

The number of marriages registered in 1938 was 463, the same number as 1937. The average number of marriages for the five years prior to 1938 was 481, annually.

Extracts from Vital Statistics of 1938.

				Total		Males		Females
Live Births	{	Legitimate.....	.....	619	.....	335	.....	284
		Illegitimate	.....	37	.....	19	.....	18
Birth-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population,								13.7
Still Births	.....	.....	.....	22	.....	14	.....	8
Rate per 1,000 total (live and still) Births,								32
Deaths	.....	.....	.....	544	.....	286	.....	258
Death-rate per 1,000 of the estimated resident population,								11.2
Deaths from Puerperal causes:—								
						Rate per 1,000		Total
				Deaths		(live and still)		births
Puerperal Sepsis	.....	.....		1				1.47
Other Puerperal causes	.....	.....		2				2.94
Total	.....	.....	.....	3				4.42
Death-rate of infants under one year of age:—								
All Infants per 1,000 live births								54
Legitimate Infants per 1,000 live births.....								54
Illegitimate Infants per 1,000 illegitimate live births.....								54
Deaths from Cancer (all ages)								74
Deaths from Measles (all ages)								—
Deaths from Whooping Cough (all ages).....								—
Deaths from Diarrhoea (under two years of age).....								2

Case Rates of Infectious Diseases (per 1,000 civilian population).

				England and Wales		Lancaster
Scarlet Fever	.....	.....	.....	2.41	.....	2.12
Diphtheria	.....	.....	.....	1.58	.....	0.34
Enteric Fever	.....	.....	.....	0.03	.....	0.06

	Per 1000 of Estimated Population.				Maternal Mortality Rate		Rate of deaths under one year per 1,000 live births
	Live birth-rate	Crude death-rate	Death-rate from tuberculosis of respiratory system.	Death-rate from Cancer.	Per 1000 live births	Per 1000 total (live and still) births	
Population, 47,540.							
Mean of 5 years, 1933—1937	14.6	12.1	0.47	1.33	4.17	3.98	59
Year—1937.....	13.9	12.5	0.46	1.50	6.06	5.81	66
1938.....	13.7	11.4 *	0.69	1.55	4.57	4.42	54
Increase or decrease in 1938							
on 5 years' average, 1933—1937	—0.9	—0.7	+0.22	+0.22	+0.40	+0.44	— 5
on Previous year	—0.2	—1.1	+0.23	+0.05	—1.49	—1.39	—12

*—Applying the Areal Comparability Factor of 0.99 to 11.4 (the crude death rate) we get 11.2 i.e. the adjusted death rate.

Statistics (Supplied by the Registrar-General).

Cause of Death.	Males	Females
All Causes	286	258
1 Typhoid and Paratyphoid Fevers.....	—	—
2 Measles	—	—
3 Scarlet Fever	—	—
4 Whooping Cough.....	—	—
3 Diphtheria.....	—	—
6 Influenza	—	4
7 Encephalitis Lethargia	—	—
8 Cerebro-Spinal Fever	1	3
9 Tuberculosis of Respiratory System	19	14
10 Other Tuberculous Diseases	1	2
11 Syphilis	2	—
12 General Paralysis of the Insane, Tabes Dorsalis	1	—
13 Cancer, Malignant Disease	38	36
14 Diabetes	2	4
15 Cerebral Haemorrhage, etc.	22	24
16 Heart Diseases	83	75
17 Aneurysm	—	—
18 Other Circulatory Diseases	22	16
19 Bronchitis	5	3
20 Pneumonia (all forms)	9	15
21 Other Respiratory Diseases	1	4
22 Peptic Ulcer	5	1
23 Diarrhoea, etc. (under 2 years).....	2	—
24 Appendicitis	3	2
25 Cirrhosis of Liver.....	1	—
26 Other Diseases of the Liver, etc.....	—	—
27 Other Digestive Diseases.....	6	4
28 Acute and Chronic Nephritis	9	11
29 Puerperal Sepsis	—	1
30 Other Puerperal Causes	—	2
31 Congenital Debility, Premature Birth, Malformations, etc.....	11	7
32 Senility	3	5
33 Suicide	1	1
34 Other Violence	14	6
35 Other defined diseases	23	17
36 Causes ill-defined or unknown	2	1

Statistics (Supplied by the Registrar-General)—(Continued).

Cause of Death.	Males	Females
Special Causes (included in No.35 above):—		
Small Pox.....	—	—
Poliomyelitis	—	—
Polio-encephalitis.....	—	—
Deaths of infants under 1 year:—		
Total	22	14
Legitimate.....	21	13
Illegitimate	1	1
Live Births:—		
Total	354	302
Legitimate.....	335	284
Illegitimate	19	18
Still Births:—		
Total	14	8
Population (Estimated)	47,540	

The total number of deaths was 544 ,as compared with 591 in the year 1937, and 586 in 1936.

Amongst the infectious diseases there were four deaths from Cerebro-Spinal Fever. There were no deaths from Typhoid Fever, Measles, Scarlet Fever, Whooping Cough, or Diphtheria, There were four deaths from Influenza, compared with twenty three in the year 1937.

The number of deaths from Tuberculosis of the Respiratory System increased from 22 to 33, and deaths from Heart Diseases increased from 139 to 158.

In fourteen cases the cause of death was uncertified, but a certificate was granted by the Coroner who held nineteen inquests in 1938.

Thirty-three per cent. of the total deaths, i.e. 182 out of 544, occurred in Hospitals or Institutions.

The natural increase in population (the excess of births over deaths) was 112, as compared with 68 in the previous year and an average of 115 for the five years, 1932 to 1936.

No definite figures are available for *Sickness* or *Invalidity* apart from the notifications of Infectious Diseases, particulars of which are given in the appropriate section of this Report.

There was again, as in 1937, a decline in the incidence of infectious diseases, both notifiable and non-notifiable.

Deaths in Institutions.

<i>Name of Institution.</i>	<i>Number of Deaths</i>
Public Assistance Institution, Lancaster	57
Royal Lancaster Infirmary	88
County Mental Hospital, Lancaster	14
Nazareth House, Lancaster.....	2
Slyne Road Isolation Hospital	6
Slyne Road Pulmonary Hospital	8
Westhaven Nursing Home.....	2
Outside Institutions and Hospitals.....	5

B.—General Provision of Health Services
for the Area.

Particulars of the Public Health Officers of the Authority are given on page 6 of this Report.

Detailed information regarding the services provided in the area has been given in previous Annual Reports.

Developments during the year include the adoption of the policy of assisting Expectant and nursing mothers in the employment of Home Helps.

Extensions to the Lancaster and District Isolation Hospital, including the provision of 26 additional beds, were opened in October.

The services provided under the following heads: (a) Laboratory facilities, (b) Ambulance facilities, (c) Nursing in the Home, and (d) Treatment Centres and Clinics, remain as before.

Health Services—Publicity.

In connection with the national campaign to secure a wider use of the health services, posters issued by the Central Council for Health Education were sent to schools, offices and works, in addition to the display of the larger posters on hoardings. Other literature was distributed at Clinics and Welfare Centres, and the special book-marks through the medium of the Public Library.

Leaflets setting out all the health services available in the area, including those provided by voluntary bodies and the County Council, were supplied to the various post offices by the County Council.

Lectures, illustrated by films, were given by the County Council's Organising Lecturer to selected audiences which included some children from each school in the area as well as teachers, leaders of youth organisations and other social workers.

City of Lancaster Health Services.

MATERNITY AND CHILD WELFARE:—

Thurnham House, Thurnham Street.—Child Welfare Clinics
Wednesday and Thursday, 2 to 4 p.m. Ante-Natal Clinic,
Friday, 2 to 4 p.m.

Ryelands House (Skerton).—Child Welfare Clinic, Monday,
2 to 4 p.m. Ante-Natal Clinic, Thursday, 9-30 a.m. to
12 noon.

SCHOOL MEDICAL SERVICE:—

Thurnham House. Inspection Clinic, Tuesday 2 to 4 p.m.
Saturday, 10 to 11 a.m. (Other School Clinics by appointment).

TUBERCULOSIS:—

The County Dispensary, 8 Middle Street, Lancaster, Monday
12 noon. Other days and evenings by appointment.

N.B.—New Patients to have a note from their Medical
Attendant.

VENEREAL DISEASES.—

Preston Royal Infirmary, Deepdale Road, Preston.

Males.—Wednesday, 4-30 to 7-30 p.m.; Friday, 4-30 to 7-0 p.m.

Females.—Tuesday, 4-30 to 7-0 p.m.; Thursday 4-30 to 6-30 p.m.

N.B.—The above is the nearest Clinic, but Patients may
attend any of the County V.D. Clinics, if desired.

HOSPITAL SERVING THE DISTRICT WITH OUT-PATIENT HOURS:—

Royal Lancaster Infirmary, 9 to 10 a.m.

AMBULANCE:—

To obtain an Ambulance apply to:—City Police Office, Town
Hall, Lancaster. Telephone Numbers: 990 or 732.

ADDRESSES:—

Medical Officer of Health (*of District*):

Public Health Office, Thurnham Street Lancaster.

Telephone No. 990.

Relieving Officer:

5, Dalton Square, Lancaster

Telephone No. 156

REGISTRAR OF BIRTHS AND DEATHS:

5, Dalton Square, Lancaster.

Telephone No. 1271

Vaccination Officer:

5, Dalton Square, Lancaster.

Telephone No. 101

MIDWIVES:—

Mrs. M. E. Barker, 91 Halton Road, Lancaster (Tel 1076).

Miss E. Fox, 5 Cromwell Road, Lancaster. (Tel. 1279).

Mrs. N. Cowell, 14 Wellington Road, Lancaster. (Tel. 1273)

Mrs. M. Bartle, 63 Ashton Drive, Luneville, Skerton,
Lancaster.

Mrs. I. M. Jones, 2 Ayr Street, Moorlands, Lancaster
(Tel. 692).

District Nurses:

Nurses Home, Regent Street, Lancaster. (Telephone 372).

C.—Sanitary Circumstances of the Area.

Water.—Good progress was made with the laying of the 21 inch pipe from Langthwaite Reservoir to Grizedale tank, but owing to the threatened shortage in the Spring, an emergency supply was obtained in April from the Thirlmere pipe-line of the Manchester Corporation.

Consideration of Circular 1684 led to the employment of experts to report on the water undertaking in its various aspects. Numerous bacteriological and chemical analyses were made at the Manchester University Public Health Laboratory after inspection of the gathering ground, reservoirs, filtration plants, etc., and the Water Committee decided to adopt the recommendations in the Report which followed the investigation. (A copy of this report was sent to the Minister of Health).

At the end of the year a four inch main was being laid to Stodday Village.

Results of a few analyses are given at the end of this Report.

Drainage and Sewerage.—The necessary extensions to the sewerage system were provided in connection with housing developments, and a new pumping station and 15 inch main to deal with the additional effluent from an artificial silk works.

Rivers and Streams.—Action was taken to check the pollution of Newlands Beck, also Burrow Beck and its tributaries.

Closet Accommodation.—The number of fresh water Closets in the area is approximately 16,600. The number of pail closets is 16, and privy middens 4.

Public Cleansing.—There are no extensions or improvements to record in the arrangements for public cleansing.

Sanitary Inspection of the Area.

Dwelling houses:—				Inspections	Re-inspections.
Inspected on Complaint	.....	.....	.....	332	554
Re Infectious Diseases.....	.....	.....	.....	55	12
Housing Acts .....	.....	.....	.....	191	473
Routine Inspections	.....	.....	.....	361	—
Factories .....	.....	.....	.....	69	—
Workshops	.....	.....	.....	66	1

Workplaces, other than Outworkers	.....	.....	162	.....	—
Offensive Trades.....	.....	.....	162	.....	—
Common Lodging Houses	.....	.....	95	.....	—
Drains	.....	.....	168	.....	264
Stable Premises and Garages	.....	.....	102	.....	—
Smoke Observations	.....	.....	18	.....	—
Markets:—					
Fish, Retail	.....	.....	47	.....	—
,, Wholesale.....	.....	.....	67	.....	—
Cattle	.....	.....	51	.....	—
General.....	.....	.....	96	.....	—
Unsound Food	.....	.....	28	.....	—
Overcrowding	.....	.....	427	.....	—
Shops:—					
Fish	.....	.....	78	.....	—
Fried Fish	.....	.....	84	.....	—
Provision	.....	.....	53	.....	—
Meat	.....	.....	508	.....	—
Ice Cream	.....	.....	76	.....	—
Slaughterhouses	.....	.....	499	.....	—
Cowsheds and Dairies	.....	.....	79	.....	—
Milk Shops	.....	.....	78	.....	—
Canal Boats	.....	.....	71	.....	—
Public Urinals	.....	.....	15	.....	—
Houses Let-in-Lodgings	.....	.....	27	.....	—
Port Inspections	.....	.....	8	.....	—
Flooded Cellars	.....	.....	148	.....	—
Miscellaneous	.....	.....	646	.....	—

Sanitary Improvements Effected.

Houses dealt with:—		<i>Public Health</i>	
		<i>Acts.</i>	<i>Housing.</i>
Lighting and ventilation improved	—	84
Roofs reconstructed or repaired	—	37
Floors repaired or relaid	—	19
Fireplaces repaired or provided.....	—	31

Staircases repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	.....	3
Walls and Chimneys pointed and repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	.....	31
Repairs and renewals to W.C. accommoda-							
tion	.....	.....	.....	.....	47	.....	—
Bins replaced	.....	.....	.....	.....	13	.....	—
Ashpits demolished and replaced by bins	.....	.....	.....	.....	9	.....	1
New sinks and other sanitary fittings	.....	.....	.....	.....	27	.....	—
Yard and lobby pavements repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	9	.....	10
Drains repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	67	.....	—
Gutters and downspouts repaired or renewed	.....	.....	.....	.....	32	.....	28
Provided with sufficient water supply	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	—
Water Services repaired.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	12	.....	—
Plasterwork	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	.....	19
Accumulations removed.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	16	.....	—
Drains tested	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	.....	—
General nuisances	.....	.....	.....	.....	30	.....	13
Dampness	.....	.....	.....	.....	7	.....	38
Premises disinfected	.....	.....	.....	.....	6	.....	—
Factories and workshops repaired	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	—
Dirty premises	.....	.....	.....	.....	3	.....	—
Dilapidated middenstead.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	2	.....	—
Referred to other departments:—							
Surveyor's Department	.....	.....	.....	.....	27	.....	—
Water	.....	.....	.....	.....	18	.....	—

Notices served in 1938.

Under Public Health Acts	.....	{	Preliminary	.....	.....	274
			Statutory	.....	.....	62
Housing Acts	.....		Preliminary	.....	.....	108
			Statutory	.....	.....	50

Notices Outstanding at the end of the Year.

Preliminary	.....	.....	.....	.....	69
Statutory	.....	.....	.....	.....	11

Swimming Baths and Pools.—There are no privately owned swimming baths or pools open to the public in the area. The swimming baths in Cable Street, owned and managed by the

Corporation, continued in general use. Analysis of the water showed a satisfactory bacteriological result.

Shops and Offices.—Additional sanitary conveniences were provided at two shops, and exemption was granted in seven other instances where suitable arrangements were made. No action was taken in regard to ventilation and temperature of shops.

Camping Sites.—There are no sites in the area used for camping purposes.

Smoke Abatement.—At the invitation of the Health Committee the Area Combustion Engineer of the N.W. Branch of the Coal Utilisation Council visited a number of works in Lancaster, in February, inspected and reported on their power plants, and gave advice to engineers and stokers which has been helpful in lessening the nuisance from industrial smoke. The extension of the use of Electricity for power has also contributed markedly in recent years to smoke abatement; the improvement became very noticeable about the middle of the year 1938. There is reason to expect further improvement owing to action being taken or contemplated by a number of firms who from time to time offend against the byelaw. During 1938 a number of observations were made and the results communicated to the works.

An official letter asking for an explanation was sent to defaulters all of whom, with one exception, received it in the proper spirit.

Eradication of Bed-bugs.—The number of council houses found to be infested during the year was 8, and the number of other houses 21.

The 8 council houses were disinfested by fumigation with HCN gas (Zyklon B.). The 21 other houses were sprayed with an insecticide of local manufacture, "Cimecticide".

A further 64 houses in clearance areas were fumigated with HCN gas prior to demolition.

The belongings of tenants about to be removed to council houses are taken in vans to the old Isolation Hospital and are there treated with HCN gas.

The work of disinfection by means of HCN gas was carried out by the Local Authority.

Measures taken to prevent infestation or re-infestation include encouragement in personal cleanliness and, in the case of Council tenants, the offer to fumigate furniture, etc., bought second-hand, constant supervision of council houses by the staff of the Housing Department, and re-visits by Sanitary Inspectors to other houses.

Schools.—The sanitary condition and water supply of the schools in the area are satisfactory. The recommendations of the official memorandum on Closure of and Exclusion from School, 1927, are followed. No schools were closed during the year on account of infectious diseases.

D.—Housing.

Number of new houses erected during the year:—			
(a)	Total (including numbers given separately under		
(b)	.....	.....	336
(1)	By the Local Authority	.....	139
(2)	By other Local Authorities	.....	—
(3)	By other bodies and persons	.....	197
(b)	With state assistance under the Housing Acts:—		
(1)	By the Local Authority	.....	139
(2)	By other bodies or persons	.....	—

1.—Inspection of Dwelling Houses during the Year:—			
(1)	(a)	Total number of dwelling-houses inspected for housing defects under Public Health or Housing Acts)	395
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	921
(2)	(a)	Number of houses (included under sub-head (1) above) which were inspected and recorded under the Housing Consolidated Regulations, 1925 and 1932.	191
	(b)	Number of inspections made for the purpose	586

(3) Number of dwelling-houses found to be in a state so dangerous or injurious to health as to be unfit for human habitation 37

(4) Number of dwelling-houses (exclusive of those under the preceding sub-head) found not to be in all respects reasonably fit for human habitation 211

2.—Remedy of Defects during the year without service of formal Notices:—

Number of defective dwelling-houses rendered fit in consequence of informal action by the Local Authority or their Officers 141

3.—Action under Statutory Powers.

A.—Proceedings under sections 9, 10 and 16 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring repairs 80

(2) Number of dwelling-houses which were rendered fit after service of Formal Notices:—

(a) By Owners 67

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners —

B.—Proceedings under Public Health Acts:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Notices were served requiring defects to be remedied 87

(2) Number of dwelling-houses in which defects were remedied after service of Formal Notices:—

(a) By Owners 73

(b) By Local Authority in default of owners —

C.—Proceedings under Sections 11 and 13 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of dwelling-houses in respect of which Demolition Orders were made 23

(2) Number of dwelling-houses demolished in pursuance of Demolition Orders	3
--	---

D.—Proceedings under Section 12 of the Housing Act, 1936:—

(1) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which closing orders were made	13
(2) Number of separate tenements or underground rooms in respect of which Closing Orders were determined, the tenement or room having been rendered fit	—

4.—Housing Act, 1936.—Part IV.—Overcrowding:—

(a) (1) Number of dwelling-houses overcrowded at the end of the year	97
(2) Number of families dwelling therein	97
(3) Number of persons dwelling therein	709
(b) Number of new cases of overcrowding reported during the year	6
(c) (1) Number of cases of overcrowding relieved during the year	49
(2) Number of persons concerned in such cases	322
(d) No cases were discovered in which dwelling-houses again became overcrowded after steps had been taken for the abatement of overcrowding.	

No houses have yet been erected by the Corporation specifically to abate overcrowding. A house was bought at Newton Terrace to accommodate an overcrowded family from Perth Street.

Inability to pay rents of available houses is a chief cause of overcrowding. Houses with four or more bedrooms are standing empty because the rent is beyond the means of large families with small incomes.

Clearance Areas.—Fifteen areas comprising 144 houses were cleared, and 139 houses were erected by the Corporation under the 1930 Act.

Community Centres.—During the year a request was received from residents in the Marsh district asking the Corporation to provide that district with a Community Centre. The Corporation approved in principle the provision of such centres, and a provisional scheme and estimates were called for, in connection with which a deputation subsequently visited Sheffield.

E.—Inspection and Supervision of Food.

(a) Milk Supply

There are within the City boundary 21 dairy farms carrying about 500 cows. There are 24 cowkeepers and, in addition, 65 dairymen or milk purveyors. Dairies, Cowsheds and Milkshops are regularly inspected, and applicants for licences are interviewed and, if necessary, instructed before licences are issued; their premises also are inspected. Periodical distribution is made of leaflets dealing with the production of clean milk.

During the year 99 samples of milk were examined for bacterial content, and the *Bacillus Coli* was found to be present in all but two of the samples. In 30 samples it was present in 1 c.c., in 26 samples in 0.1 c.c., in 18 samples in 0.01 c.c., and in 23 samples it was found even in 0.001 c.c.

The total *bacterial count* was under 10,000 per c.c. in 24 of the 99 samples, it was between 10,000 and 30,000 in 34 samples, and between 30,000 and 200,000 in 31 samples. In the remaining 10 samples it was over 200,000 per c.c.

Ninety-eight samples of ordinary milk were examined for *Tuberculosis*, and in four cases the milk was found to be infected. Twenty-two samples of *accredited* milk and eleven of *Pasteurised* milk were examined. Three accredited samples were reported to be unsatisfactory, and, in addition, two of them were found to be tubercular. The pasteurised samples were satisfactory.

Under the *Tuberculous Order*, 1925, two cows were notified by the owners, and the Veterinary Officer examined 51 cows in the investigation of these cases.

(b) Meat and Other Foods.

The bulk of the Senior Sanitary Inspector's time is absorbed in the supervision of the food supply, in the inspection of meat at the public slaughter house, the market stalls, shops and places where food is prepared.

The following table shows the number of animals slaughtered and inspected at the slaughter house during the year:—

Carcases Inspected and Condemned.

		Cattle (exclud- ing Cows)	Cows	Calves	Sheep and Lambs	Pigs
	Number Killed	2687	280	331	16,150	4494
	Number inspected	2687	280	331	16,150	4494
All diseases except Tuberculosis	Whole Carcase Condemned	1	—	—	—	2
	Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	26	—	—	109	124
	Percentage of the number in- spected affected with disease other than Tuberculosis	1.005	—	—	0.67	2.8
Tuberculosis only	Whole Carcases Condemned	2	21	—	—	3
	Carcases of which some part or organ was condemned	1	—	—	—	11
	Percentage of number inspect- ed affected with Tuberculosis	0.11	7.5	—	—	0.31

UNSOUND FOOD CONDEMNED IN 1938.

<i>Description</i>					<i>Approximate Weight Destroyed</i>			
					<i>Tons.</i>	<i>Cwts.</i>	<i>Qrs.</i>	<i>Lbs.</i>
Cattle:—	Tubercular	.....	.....	.....	9	5	0	8
	Other Diseases	.....	.....	.....	—	9	3	0
Pigs:—	Tubercular	.....	.....	.....	—	5	2	11
	Other Diseases	.....	.....	.....	—	7	3	23
Sheep:—	Flukes	.....	.....	.....	—	3	3	4
	Other Diseases	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—	12
Corned Beef	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—	18
Cod	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	—	24
Haddock (Wet Fish )	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	2	0	19
Hake	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	1	0
Kippers.....	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	3	0
Plaice	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	1	0
Apples	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	3	0	24
Mushrooms	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	1	7
Pears	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	1	6
Strawberries	.....	.....	.....	.....	—	—	2	8
					11	0	1	24

(c) Adulteration, etc.

Four samples were examined under the Public Health (Condensed Milk) Regulations, and were found satisfactory. Under the Food and Drugs (Adulteration) Act, 1928, 141 samples were submitted for analysis. These comprised 85 samples of milk, 44 of butter, and 12 of cream.

The Public Analyst reported against four of the milk samples. These are numbered 5, 110, 121, and 136 in the following statement which also shows the result of subsequent sampling:—

<i>Sample No.</i>	<i>Date, 1938.</i>	<i>Fat.</i>	<i>Solids not Fat</i>
5	18 January.	2.80	8.64
15	15 February.	3.40	8.60
110	25 October.	2.45	8.86
121	8 November	2.90	8.59
122	9 November.	3.05	8.55
136	13 December.	3.10	8.38
1	24 January, 1939	3.15	8.99

The average percentage of fat in the total 85 samples of milk was 3.57, and of non-fatty solids, 8.90. In none of them was any preservative found.

(d) Chemical and Bacteriological Examination of Food.

This work, when required to be done, is carried out at the Public Health Laboratory of the Manchester University.

(e) Nutrition.

Information as to foods and food values was given at the various school clinics and child welfare centres, also in schools and homes visited.

Lectures were given by the medical staff, and by the Organising Lecturer for Health Education of the County Council.

(f) Shell fish (Molluscan).

The mussel-beds in the Lune estuary are under the jurisdiction of the Port Health Authority, and are liable to pollution.

The Lancaster (Shell-fish) Regulations, 1918, prohibit the sale and distribution for human consumption of mussels or other shell-fish taken from within the Port Sanitary District which have not been satisfactorily cleansed or sterilized.

No measures have been taken for the cleansing or sterilizing of the mussels from these layings, and so far as can be ascertained they are not now marketed for human consumption.

Shell-fish (mussels) marketed in the area are said to be derived from Silloth (Cumberland) layings.

NOTIFIABLE INFECTIOUS DISEASES, 1938.

DISEASE.	CASES NOTIFIED.												Cases Admitted to Hospital	Deaths
	Under 1	1 to 2	2 to 3	3 to 4	4 to 5	5 to 10	10 to 15	15 to 20	20 to 35	35 to 45	45 to 65	Over 65	Total	
Scarlet Fever	—	2	8	8	12	46	10	10	2	2	1	—	101	—
Diphtheria	—	1	2	2	2	7	—	—	3	—	—	—	17	—
Enteric Fever	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	—	—	3	—
Pneumonia Acute Primary and Influenzal	—	—	—	—	1	2	—	2	10	2	18	6	41	24 ^a
Puerperal Pyrexia	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	—	—	—	5	all forms
Cerebro Spinal Fever	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	2	1	—	—	—	4	1
Acute Poliomyelitis.....	—	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	1	4
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	9	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	9	—
Erysipelas	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	5	6	9	5	25	3
Totals	9	3	11	10	16	55	10	15	28	10	28	11	206	32

NOTIFIED :—

(a)—18 from County Mental Hospital.
2 from Royal Albert Institution.

(b)—6 from County Mental Hospital.
1 from Royal Albert Institution.
1 from Public Assistance Institution.

F.—Infectious Diseases.

Scarlet Fever.—One hundred and one cases were notified, compared with 163 in the previous year, 182 in the year 1936, and 320 in 1935. In only four of the houses concerned was there a second case notified, but in eighteen of the houses there was at least one other member of the household found to be suffering, or to have recently suffered from sore throat without obvious rash. One case was notified from each of the three institutions.

Seventy-four cases were admitted to hospital. One of these had concurrent diphtheria. Two developed chicken-pox soon after admission, and three others were cross infected. The disease was moderately severe in character; there were no deaths.

Diphtheria.—There were seventeen cases of diphtheria notified, the lowest number since 1929. Fourteen of the cases were tonsillar, three nasal, and one laryngeal. All seventeen patients were removed to hospital, and all recovered. Five of the cases were connected with the infants' class in an elementary school, one of them being the teacher.

Five school children and fifteen infants under school age were actively immunized against diphtheria at the request of parents.

Enteric Fever.—Three cases were notified, two of them being hospital nurses of the third, in whose case the source of infection remained undiscovered.

Pneumonia.—Forty-one cases of pneumonia were notified, of which 14 were influenzal. Twenty of the cases occurred in hospital or institution. Two other cases were admitted to the Isolation Hospital, and two to the Infirmary. There were 24 deaths from pneumonia.

Puerperal Pyrexia.—Five cases of P. Pyrexia were notified, one of which ended fatally. Three of the cases were treated in hospital.

Cerebro-Spinal Fever.—Four cases of this disease were notified, one after death. Three of the cases were treated in hospital, and all ended fatally.

Ophthalmia Neonatorum.—Nine cases were notified, and all were admitted to hospital where two of the babies died, one from congenital heart disease, the other from congenital syphilis.

Non-notifiable Diseases.—During the year there were reported from the elementary schools 281 cases of Measles, 83 cases of Chicken-pox, 2 cases of Whooping Cough, and 210 cases of Mumps. The homes of the children were visited by the School Nurses.

Hospital Accommodation.—The existing accommodation of 56 beds for cases of infectious disease was increased by 26 beds. In addition to cases of ordinary infectious diseases it was found possible to admit cases of other diseases during the year, e.g. measles, and broncho-pneumonia.

Bacteriological Examinations.—Throat swabs are examined at the Laboratory of the Joint Hospital Board. Other examinations are made at the Manchester University Public Health Laboratory.

Specimens examined in 1938:—

- 129 throat and nose swabs.
- 4 blood for typhoid fever.
- 1 sputum for tuberculosis.
- 5 Water (bact'l and chemical).

Tuberculosis.

NEW CASES AND MORTALITY DURING 1938.

Age Periods	New Cases.				Deaths.			
	Pulmonary		Non-Pulm'ry		Pulmonary		Non-Pulm'ry	
	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.	M.	F.
0.....	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
1.....	—	—	—	1	—	—	—	1
5.....	—	—	4	2	—	—	—	—
10.....	—	1	—	2	—	—	—	—
15.....	—	3	1	1	—	2	—	—
20.....	2	3	1	2	2	3	—	—
25.....	3	3	2	5	4	5	—	1
35.....	4	4	—	1	4	3	1	—
45.....	5	1	1	—	6	1	—	—
55.....	3	1	1	—	3	—	—	—
65 and upwards:	—	—	—	—	—	—	—	—
Totals	17	16	10	14	19	14	1	2
	33		24		33		3	

Deaths from Tuberculosis (all forms):—

1927	41	1933	36
1928	36	1934	16
1929	39	1935	29
1930	26	1936	25
1931	28	1937	27
1932	37	1938	36

The ratio of non-notified to total deaths was 1 to 36.

The explanation usually given of the omission to notify was forgetfulness, or failure to diagnose until the patient was dying.

Fifty-seven cases were notified for the first time and thirteen of the thirty-three notified pulmonary cases died during the year.

The number who applied to the County Dispensary in Middle Street for treatment was 41. Those who did not apply were notified from Institutions, or died soon after notification, or removed from the area, or were written off the register as "Diagnosis not confirmed."

The number of new patients examined by the County Tuberculosis Officers in 1938 was 147 and the number of re-examinations of patients was 540.

Dr. G. H. Leigh, Consultant Tuberculosis Officer, to whom I am indebted for the information given above, has also supplied the following table shewing the extent of isolation amongst those who applied to the Dispensary for treatment:—

LANCASTER. (B).

Housing Conditions at the end of 1938 of County patients residing in Lancaster (B) who were on the dispensary registers.

	Infectious.			Not-Infectious.			Non-Pulmonary.		
	Separate Room	Separate Bed	Not Sep. Bed	Separate Room	Separate Bed	Not Sep. Bed	Separate Room	Separate Bed	Not Sep. Bed
Male Children..	—	—	—	1	—	—	13	3	5
FemaleChildren	—	—	—	1	1	1	4	—	7
Male Adults ...	18	2	3	16	1	10	10	1	8
Female Adults..	10	1	—	6	—	8	5	1	18
Total	28	3	3	24	2	19	32	5	38
<div><div>34</div><div>45</div><div>75</div></div>									
154									

G.—Maternity and Child Welfare.

The staff engaged in this service consists of an Assistant Medical Officer of Health, who is also Assistant School Medical Officer, and five Health Visitors, who are also School Nurses.

Statistics for the Year 1938.

Births.

Registered	(1) Legitimate:	(2) Illegitimate:	(3) Total
(a) Live	619	37	656
(a) Still	19	3	22

Notified within

36 hours (1) Live births, 671 (2) Still births, 20. Total, 691.
of birth (1) By Midwives, 675. (2) By Parents and doctors 16.

Infant Deaths..

Number (1) Legitimate, 34. (2) Illegitimate, 2. (3) Total, 36

Rate per 1,000

births (1) Legitimate, 54. (2) Illegitimate, 54. Total, 54.

Maternal Deaths.—Number of women dying in, or in consequence of, childbirth:—

(a) From Sepsis	.....	.....	1
(b) Other Causes	.....	.....	2

Midwifery.—In 641 cases investigated:—

Attended by Doctor.....	.....	163
„ „ Trained Midwife	.....	460
Born before arrival of attendant	.....	18

Health Visitors.—Visits paid during the year:—

To Expectant Mothers (1) First Visits, 283; (2) Total Visits, 792.
To Infants under 1 (1) First Visits 641; (2) Total Visits 3725.
To Children 1—5 (1) Total Visits, 6715.
Other M. and C.W. Visits 50.

Municipal Centres and Clinics.

	Average Attendance per Session.		Numbers who attended for the First Time.	
	Expectant Mothers	Children	Expectant Mothers	Children
<i>Centres:</i>				
Thurnham House (1)	—	84	—	242
Thurnham House (2)	—	75	—	269
Skerton	—	82	—	253
<i>Ante-Natal Clinics</i>				
Thurnham House	13	—	232	—
Ryelands House	9	—	135	—

Infectious Diseases.

	Number of Cases Notified	Number of Cases Visited	Number of Cases Nursed	Number removed to Hosp'l
Ophthalmia Neonatorum	9	7	2	9
Puerperal Pyrexia	5	5	—	1
★Measles and German Measles	—	208	1	—
★Whooping Cough	—	8	—	—
Poliomyelitis	1	1	—	1

★—Not Notifiable.

Notification of Births.—Fourteen cases were not notified within 36 hours as required by the Act. In each case of failure to notify, the parent was asked to explain the omission.

Lying-in Beds.—There were 195 Lancaster births in the Infirmary, 6 in the public Assistance Institution, and 9 in Private Maternity Homes.

Stillbirths.—There were 22 still born babies registered during the year, all of whom were notified.

Infantile Mortality.—There were 36 deaths under one year. This is equal to a rate of 54 per 1,000 births a decrease of 12 on the rate for 1937.

Fifteen of the 36 deaths occurred during the first week, 12 of them being attributed to premature birth.

Maternal Mortality.—The deaths of three mothers were connected with childbirth, one of them being due to sepsis.

Enquiry into these deaths was made by the Assistant County Medical Officer.

Ante-Natal Clinics.—In the year 1936 there was only one ante-natal clinic, viz. that at Thurnham House, and the number of women who attended for the first time in that year was 242. In the following year (1937) a second ante-natal clinic, at Ryelands House, was opened, with the result that the number of women attending rose to 299. A further increase to 367, occurred in the year 1938. Of these 367, 28 were single and 339 married. Multiparae numbered 276, and primiparae 91. Seventy two-women were referred by Health Visitors, 134 by Midwives, and 161 attended of their own accord or on the advice of friends. One hundred and forty women were found to be in urgent need of dental treatment. One hundred and one of these were necessitous and were offered free treatment at the dental clinic, but 25 refused the offer. In six cases blood was examined for the Wasserman reaction, with a positive result in two cases. Eight smears were examined, one of which was positive. Thirty seven-women were referred to the maternity ward of the Infirmary, 21 of these directly, and 16 through their own doctor.

Orthopaedic After Care Centre.—Four new cases of children under school age, with non-tubercular deformities, attended the Centre for the first time in 1938. Three of these were suffering from flat feet, the fourth from an imaginary ailment.

One child suffering from poliomyelitis was admitted direct from his home to the Ethel Hedley Hospital, Windermere, for in-patient treatment.

Nine examinations were made at the After Care Centre of the four new cases, and thirteen re-examinations of six old cases.

Assisted Milk Supply.—4042 lbs of dried milk were sold at cost price, 1023 lbs. at half cost price and 16,191 lbs. were given free, in accordance with the scale based on family income.

Treatment.—Forty-four children under school age were treated at the Minor Ailments Clinic, 101 at the Dental Clinic, and 13 were referred to the Infirmary for the removal of Tonsils and Adenoids. Nineteen children were examined by Dr. Sykes, who prescribed spectacles in 11 cases.

(Twenty cases of *Inflammation of the Eye* in the new-born were investigated at the request of the County Medical Officer of Health).

The Port of Lancaster.

My report as Medical Officer of Health of the Port of Lancaster having already been forwarded to the Ministry of Health, it will be sufficient to state here that nothing eventful occurred during the year.

Two hundred and twenty-five vessels with an aggregate tonnage of 25, 536, entered the Port in 1938.

INCIDENCE OF INFECTIOUS DISEASES. 1931—1938

Year	Scarlet Fever	Diphtheria	Enteric Fever	Pneumonia	Erysipelas	Ophthalmia Neonatorum	Puerperal Fever	Puerperal Pyrexia.
1931	123	19	11	76	22	3	1	8
1932	70	70	5	61	20	4	3	7
1933	65	164	3	67	17	5	2	7
1934	191	61	2	55	22	3	—	6
1935	320	130	6	69	28	2	—	6
1936	182	116	1	53	24	—	2	1
1937	166	55	3	76	41	2	1	16
1938	101	17	3	41	25	9	0	5

BIRTH RATE, DEATH RATE, AND ANALYSIS OF MORTALITY DURING THE YEAR 1938.

	Birth Rate per 1000 Total Population		Annual Death Rate per 1000 Population									Rate per 1000 Births	
												Diarrhoea and Enteritis (Under Two Years)	Total Deaths Under One Year
	Live Births	Still Births	All Causes	Enteric Fever	Small-Pox	Measles	Scarlet Fever	Whooping Cough	Diphtheria	Influenza	Violence		
England and Wales	15.1	0.60	11.6	0.00	.....	0.04	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.11	.....	5.5	53
125 County Boroughs and Great Towns, including London	15.0	0.65	11.7	0.00	.....	0.05	0.01	0.03	0.07	0.10	.....	7.8	57
148 Smaller Towns (Resi- dent Populations 25,000 to 50,000 at 1931 Census)	15.4	0.60	11.0	0.00	.....	0.03	0.01	0.02	0.06	0.11	.....	3.6	51
London	13.4	0.48	11.4	0.00	.....	0.06	0.01	0.03	0.05	0.06	.....	13.1	57
LANCASTER.....	13.7	0.46	11.4	0.00	.....	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.00	0.08	.....	3.0	54

Births, Marriages and Deaths Since 1911.

Year	Marriages	Births	Total Deaths	Deaths under 1 year	Census Population
1911	324	834	541	84	41,410
1912	316	849	498	81	
1913	313	758	524	73	
1914	306	788	488	68	
1915	372	668	554	68	
1916	341	688	553	91	
1917	412	656	515	71	
1918	431	694	682	94	
1919	475	686	539	67	
1920	466	963	499	76	
1921	365	802	499	72	40,212
1922	373	704	556	58	
1923	345	706	497	56	
1924	409	638	565	45	
1925	401	661	570	57	
1926	366	677	475	43	
1927	328	649	560	50	
1928	335	719	488	48	
1929	435	625	609	66	
1930	424	677	525	37	
1931	375	651	532	39	43,396
1932	443	608	540	54	
1933	482	628	564	42	
1934	494	676	513	31	
1935	481	712	560	41	
1936	483	716	586	44	
1937	463	659	591	44	
1938	463	656	544	36	

Water Analysis.

Bacteriological Examinations.

(1) House Tap, Haverbreaks Lodge, Lancaster. (8th November, 1938).

Aerobic micro-organisms in yeastrel agar				No. of Colonies per c.c. of water
In 3 days at 22° C.	.....	.....	.....	18
In 2 days at 37° C.	.....	.....	.....	3
Bacteria associated with sewage or faecal pollution:				
				Quantity of water in which these bacteria were
				found not found
Bacterium coli	.....	.....		100 c.c.
Probable number of Coli-aero- genes bacteria per 100 c.c. of water				0

(2) House Tap, 282 Torrisholme Road, Lancaster. (8th Nov, 1938)
 Micro-organisms in 3 days at 22° C.—10 Colonies per c.c.
 Micro-organisms in 2 days at 37° C.— 2 Colonies per c.c.
 B.Coli was not found in 100 c.c.

(3) House Tap, 23 Barton Road, Lancaster. (21st November 1938.)
 Micro-organisms in 3 days at 22° C.— 4 Colonies per c.c.
 Micro-organisms in 2 days at 37° C.— 4 Colonies per c.c.
 B.Coli was not found in 100 c.c.

(4) House Tap, 2 Greaves Drive, Lancaster. (28th November, 1938)
 Micro-organisms in 3 days at 22° C.—4 Colonies per c.c.
 Micro-organisms in 2 days at 37° C.— 4 Colonies per c.c.
 B.Coli was not found in 100 c.c.

Chemical Examinations.

Numerical results expressed in parts per 100,000.

(1) House Tap, Haverbreaks Lodge, Lancaster. (8th Nov. 1938.)

Colour—Blue.		Turbidity—None		Smell—None.	
Oxygen absorbed	..... 0.054	Hardness (Clark's method)	Temporary	.....	0.8
Free&SalineAmmonia	0.0014		Permanent	.....	2.2
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0026		Total	.....	3.0
Nitrous Nitrogen	..... Nil	Reaction pH		.....	.....7.0-7.5
Nitric Nitrogen.....	..... 0.027	Action on Lead (24 hours)		0.06	
Chlorides	..... 1.4	Metals		.....	..... Nil

(2) House Tap, 282 Torrisholme Road, Lancaster. (8th Nov., 1938.)

Colour—Greenish Blue		Turbidity—None		Smell—None	
Oxygen absorbed	..... 0.075	Hardness (Clark's method)	Temporary	.....	2.2
Free&Saline Ammonia:	0.0012		Permanent	.....	2.8
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0032		Total	.....	5.0
Nitrous Nitrogen	..... Nil	Reaction pH		.....	..... 8.5
Nitric Nitrogen.....	..... 0.024	Action on Lead (24 hours)		0.06	
Chlorides	..... 1.5	Metals		.....	..... Nil

(3) House Tap, 23 Barton Road, Lancaster. (21st November, 1938.)

Colour—Green		Turbidity—None		Smell—None	
Oxygen absorbed	..... 0.104	Hardness (Clark's method)	Temporary	.....	3.5
Free&SalineAmmonia	0.0012		Permanent	.....	4.0
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0048		Total	.....	7.5
Nitrous Nitrogen	..... Nil	Reaction pH		.....	..... 9.5
Nitric Nitrogen	..... Nil	Action on Lead (24 hours)		0.32	
Chlorides	..... 1.6	Metals		.....	..... Nil

(4) House Tap, 2 Greaves Drive, Lancaster. (28th November, 1938.)

Colour—Blue		Turbidity—None		Smell—None	
Oxygen absorbed	..... 0.054	Hardness (Clark's method)	Temporary	.....	1.0
Free&SalineAmmonia	0.0014		Permanent	.....	3.0
Albuminoid Ammonia	0.0044		Total	.....	4.0
Nitrous Nitrogen	..... Nil	Reaction, pH		.....	..... 7.0
Nitric Nitrogen.....	..... 0.021	Action on Lead (24 hours)		0.11	
Chlorides	..... 1.4	Metals		.....	..... Nil

Houses Built in Lancaster Since 1920.

Year	Number of Houses Erected.				
	Total		(a) By Corporation.		(b) By Private Enterprise.
1921	28	.....	19	.....	9
1922	46	.....	31	.....	15
1923	8	.....	—	.....	8
1924	33	.....	18	.....	15
1925	88	.....	58	.....	30
1926	301	.....	163	.....	138
1927	354	.....	226	.....	128
1928	114	.....	100	.....	14
1929	211	.....	170	.....	41
1930	112	.....	34	.....	78
1931	133	.....	—	.....	133
1932	289	.....	152	.....	137
1933	459	.....	150	.....	309
1934	609	.....	50	.....	559
1935	461	.....	110	.....	351
1936	402	.....	92	.....	310
1937	517	.....	110	.....	407
1938	336	.....	139	.....	197
Total.....	4501	.....	1622	.....	2879

